

ER 6-0734a

The Honorable John F. Kennedy
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

ILLEGIB

Dear Senator Kennedy:

I have received your memorandum of 29 September 1954, concerning the request by The Beacon Press for your help in verifying the accuracy of the Icardi book.

Although we sympathize with the desire of The Beacon Press to obtain a statement as to Icardi's guilt or innocence and to learn our views as to the accuracy of his book, I am sure you will understand why we are unable to comply with their request. Icardi has not to our knowledge been tried by any U. S. Court in connection with the circumstances surrounding the death of Major Holohan and if we, as an Agency, were to express any opinion concerning his guilt or innocence, we would be in an indefensible position. As to the accuracy of his book, again unfortunately we can make no statement. Were we to do so, we would have to make similar statements whenever asked concerning the large number of books now being published which deal with wartime OSS experiences. Such statements would be interpreted by the public as endorsements of all material in the books, and again our position would be indefensible.

I regret that we are unable to be of assistance to The Beacon Press. I am returning their letter to you and the jacket of the book.

Sincerely yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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Enclosures

O/GC:JSW/mm

Rewritten: O/DCI: [] /dr (26 Oct 54)

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee

3 - DCI (DCI Files

Reading

Exec. Reg.)

MORI/CDF

1 - JSE Chrono

1 - OGC Subject ✓

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Enclosure

OGC/JSW:mm

2 - addressee

3 - Director's office

1 - OGC subject - *my back*

1 - OGC chrono

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